(b) whether the said work would be taken up during the current year ;

c) while the non-stop buses are running from each District Headquarters to Bangalore ; the reasons for not starting similar bus from Chickmagalur ; when such bus will be started ?

SRI R. GUNDU RAO (Minister for Transport and Tourism)—

(a) Though serious efforts made by the K S.R.T.C., to acquire and take possession of the land belonging to Municipality, Chickmagalur the land has not come to the possession of the K.S.R.T.C., and therefore there are hurdles in taking up the construction work of the Bus Stand.

(b) This will depend upon the availability of land required for the Bus Stand.

(c) Except certain District Headquarters. the K.S.R.T.C., is not running non-stop buses to all the District Headquarters. Since the number of direct passengers from Chickamagalur to Bangalore is inadequate it is not feasible to run a non-stop bus from Chickmagalur to Bangalore.

However, the K.S.R.T.C., will run a non-stop bus if a bus-load of direct passengers from Chickmagalur to Bangalore are found to be travelling in the bus at appropriate time and if there is justification to run such a bus.

Helipads Constructed during 1978— General Elections

808 SRI G. K. Takked (Parasgad)—Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of Helipads constructed in the State during 1978 General Elections for purposes of VIPs. ;

(b) the different kinds of planes used by the VIPs. for the electioneering during 1978 in the State ;

(c) the expenditure incurred for the purpose (for Helipads and Plane charges) ;

(d) who are all the VIPs that used the air facilities ?

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister)—

(a) Thirteen (13).

(b) (1) M. I.-8 Helicopter

(2) Alouette Helicopter.

(c) (1) Plane charges ... Nil as far as State Government is concerned.

(2) Expenditure incurred for Heli, ad construction. ... Rs. 24,974-51 incurred by the State Government.

(d) (1) Sri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India.

(2) Shri Jagjivan Ram, Union Minister for Defence.

(3) Shri Charan Singh, Former Union Home Minister

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i)*re: Fear of damage to Almatti dam due to bad quality of sand used for Construction*

SRI M. S. KATAGI (KUNDGOL).—I call the attention of the Chief Minister to the fear of damage that may be caused to the construction of dam at Almatti due to the alleged bad quality of sand being used for the construction work of dam other than the approved.

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister).—Sir, I wish to make the following statement.—

For the construction of Almatti Dam, sand from 5 Kms stretch under the Chimmalgi Nala and 5 Kms stretch under the Manni Halla has been provided in the tenders. Sand from Chikkalgi Nala was being obtained for the construction of the dam till recently. Recently, about 6 months back the sand quarry under Chimmalgi Nala has been leased out by the Director of Mines and Geology to Shri M.M. Sajjan, ex.MLA. Previously this quarry had been reserved exclusively for the project work. Sand is now being obtained from the Manni Halla quarry as also from Parvathi Katte Nala where required quality of sand is available. Both these sand quarries are within the approved land. Sand is being tested at every stage before it is used for the construction of the dam. Sand which satisfies the specifications alone is being used. There is no danger to the quality of construction by obtaining sand from quarries other than Chimmalgi Nala.

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ.ಕೆ. ಕಳ್ಳಿ ಗುಡ್ಡ.—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಆಲಮಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಮೆಂಟ್ ಬಹಳ ಸೋರಿಹೋಗಂತಾ ಇದೆ. ಇನ್ನೂವ ವಿಚಾರ ನಾನು ಈಗ ತಿಳಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ಆದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಲಕ್ಷ್ಯದಿಂದ ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಆ ರೀತಿ